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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/763,300

01/26/2004

Yuji Shimoda

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STAAS & HALSEY LLP

SUITE 700

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EXAMINER

GETACHEW, ABIY

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2841

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

08/09/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/763,300

Applicant(s)

SHIMODA ET AL.

Examiner

Abiy Getachew

Art Unit

2841

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 May 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 January 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

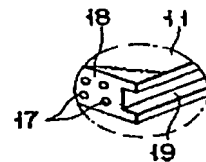
1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hosoya et.al. (5,544,009).

Regarding claim 1, Hosoya et.al. discloses an electronic apparatus (See figure 5) electrically connectable to a function expansion member (11) via connector (18) the function expansion member (11) having the connector (18) and expanding a function of said electronic apparatus (Figure 5), said electronic apparatus (Figure 5), comprising a housing (3) that has an insertion opening (10) which the member is to be inserted (10) into and ejected from an ejector (34) which is folded so as to hold the function expansion member (11) while said ejector (34) exposes the connector (18) having a movable end that projects from the insertion and projects the function expansion member (11) from the insertion opening (10) as the movable end moves (See figure 10) in a direction separating from the insertion opening (10) and a cover (See figure 5) attachable to said housing (3), which closes the insertion opening (10).



Regarding claim 4, as applied claim above Hosoya et.al. discloses wherein said ejector (See the abstract, i.e. an ejector is arranged within the housing) has approximately the same width as the external member. (See figure 5 element 10 where

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the external member inserted to. In order the external member to fit into the insertion opening the width of both elements should be approximately the same)

Regarding claim 5, as applied claim 1 above Hosoya et.al. discloses, wherein said ejector (See the abstract, i.e. an ejector is arranged within the housing) is made of a transparent material. (See the Abstract, i.e. a card storage section is provided in such a manner as to be continuous with the inlet. It is an opening providing a means of entrance or intake)

Regarding claim 6, as applied claim 1 above Hosoya et.al. discloses wherein said ejector (See the abstract, i.e. an ejector is arranged within the housing) is made of a ribbon. (See figure 5 element 10 where the external member inserted to. In order the external member to fit into the insertion opening the width of both elements should be approximately the same so therefore such a band or strip member has a small thickness that enables the thickness of the insertion opening to be approximately equal to that of the external member (11).)

Regarding claim 10, as applied claim 1 above Hosoya et.al. discloses further comprising a restriction part (34) that restricts a movement of the movable end of said restriction part being fixed in said housing and said ejector being fixed onto said restriction part (An ejector is arranged within the housing).

Regarding claim 11, as applied claim 1 above Hosoya et.al. discloses further comprising a insertion and ejection member (14) that guides function expansion member, wherein said ejector is provided on said guide member (14) [Column 6 paragraph 3 lines 18-30] and said guide (14) member is provided in said housing (2).

Regarding claim 12, as applied claim 11 above Hosoya et.al. discloses further comprising a substrate (211) accommodated in said housing (2) and connectable electrically to the function expansion member (11) said guide member (14) being fixed onto said substrate (211). [Column 17 paragraph 3 lines 13-44]

Regarding claim 17, as applied claim 16 above Hosoya et.al. discloses wherein an engagement (32) force between said cover and the movable end of said ejector (An ejector is arranged within the housing) is greater than a force to disconnect an electric connection between the function expansion member (11) and said electronic apparatus (figure 5).

Regarding claim 18, as applied claim 1 above Hosoya et.al. discloses wherein an electronic apparatus according to claim 1, wherein groove engageable with the moveable end of said and a rib that positions the movable end. (See figure 10)

Regarding claim 19, as applied claim 1 above Hosoya et.al. discloses wherein An electronic apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the movable end is the-thickest in said ejector (34). (See figure 5 element 10 where the external member inserted to. In order the external member to fit into the insertion opening the width of both elements should be approximately the same)

Regarding claim 20, as applied claim 1 above Hosoya et.al. discloses wherein An electronic apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the movable end of said ejector (34) has a stretchable, bellows shape.[See column 1 paragraph 1 lines 14-19; i.e. invention relates to an electronic apparatus system comprising a small-sized electronic apparatus unit such as a portable book-type personal computer or word processor and an

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expansion unit having an expansion device for expanding the function of the electronic apparatus unit]

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed 5/23/2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

First, Hosoya does not disclose the ejector recited in claim 1, and claim 1 is not anticipated by Hosoya and distinguishes patentably over the references and rejections of record"

In response to the above argument, an electronic apparatus (See figure 5) electrically connectable to a function expansion member (11) via connector (18) the function expansion member (11) having the connector (18) and expanding a function of said electronic apparatus (Figure 5), said electronic apparatus (Figure 5), comprising a housing (3) that has an insertion opening (10) which the member is to be inserted (10) into and ejected from an ejector (34) which is folded so as to hold the function expansion member(11) while said ejector (34) exposes the connector (18) having a movable end that projects from the insertion and projects the function expansion member (11) from the insertion opening (10) as the movable end moves (See figure 10) in a direction separating from the insertion opening (10) and a cover (See figure 5) attachable to said housing (3), which closes the insertion opening (10).

Conclusion

4. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Abiy Getachew whose telephone number is (571) 272 6932. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday 8Am to 4:30Pm.

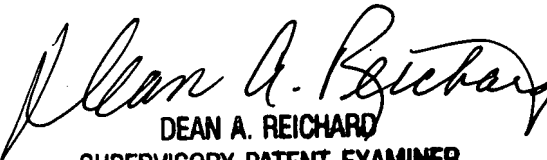
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dean A. Reichard can be reached on (571) 272 1984. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Abiy Getachew
Examiner
Art Unit 2841

July 29, 2007
A.G.

 8/3/07
DEAN A. REICHARD
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800